

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of forming a security article, comprising the steps of: providing a light transmissive substrate having a first surface and an opposing second surface, the first surface having an optical interference pattern; and forming a color shifting optical coating on the second surface of the substrate, the second surface being substantially planar, wherein the color shifting coating provides an observable discrete color shift such that the article has a first background color at a first angle of incident light or viewing and a second background color different from the first background color at a second angle of incident light or viewing, the article exhibiting an optical diffraction grating pattern effect or a holographic image pattern effect in addition to the first and second background colors, and wherein a thickness of the substrate is in a range of 3 μ m to 100 μ m.

2. (cancelled)

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color shifting optical coating is formed by depositing an absorber layer on the second surface of the substrate, depositing a dielectric layer overlying the absorber layer and depositing a reflector layer overlying the dielectric layer.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color shifting optical coating is formed by depositing a first absorber layer on the second surface of the substrate, depositing a dielectric layer overlying the absorber layer and depositing a second absorber layer overlying the dielectric layer.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color shifting optical coating is formed by applying a color shifting ink comprising a plurality of multilayer color shifting flakes

dispersed in a polymeric medium to the second surface of the substrate.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the color shifting optical coating is formed on the second surface of the substrate by coextruding a color shifting material comprising a plurality of multilayer optical interference flakes dispersed in a polymeric medium, with a material forming the substrate.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of forming a release layer on the substrate, and of hot stamping the security article to an object.